

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, May 1, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

2002 Militaria Swap Meet to be held in Churchville

The East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, featuring the military flea market and swap meet, will be held in conjunction with Ordnance Week, May 9 to 11 in Churchville, on Route 22, three miles from Aberdeen and Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Take exit 85 west (Route 22) from Interstate 95. Look for the Big M Drive-In Theater. The rally runs from dawn to dusk. Visit the rally Web site, aberdeenrally@aol.com, for a schedule of events and more information.

Mitchell House hosts open house

National Preservation Week is May 12 to 18. The garrison Cultural Resource Team will host an open house May 14, 1 to 4 p.m. to observe this event. The Mitchell House, located in building 5650, is a 1905 Victorian mansion built by Malcom Mitchell, a local businessman who canned and promoted Mitchell's Shoepeg Sweet Corn well beyond the Harford County farms that grew it for him. Many native and historic plants surround the home.

Inside is the APG Garrison's own museum, displaying some artifacts from Old Baltimore, a 17th century historic site located on post and exhibits that show APG history.

For more information, call Mark Gallihue, 410-278-6756.

APG celebrates Law Day, May 1

The 2002 Law Day observance opens with a memorialization ceremony honoring the memory of retired Lt. Col. Jackie L. Rice on May 1 at 8:30 a.m. at the APG Courthouse, building 2043. The APG deputy staff judge advocate from 1993 to 1995, Rice is credited with overseeing the designation and renovations of the courthouse during his tenure.

A \$12 buffet luncheon at Top of the Bay at 11:30 a.m. follows with U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland Thomas M.

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Why Law Day?

www.loc.gov

Law Day - May 1 - is a special day focusing on our heritage of liberty under law, proclaimed in 1958 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to strengthen our great heritage of liberty, justice, and equality under the law.

Every year the American Bar Association is joined by national organizations, state and local bars, businesses and schools, in conducting thousands of programs on the rule of law in a constitutional democracy. This year's theme is "Celebrate Your Freedom - Assuring Equal Justice for All."

The theme focuses on America's efforts to make

See LAW DAY, page 3



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Spc. Pastephanie Williams, paralegal specialist, adjusts a gavel in the window of this year's Law Day display, located outside the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate on the first floor of building 310. The display was created by Rafael Velez, a Harford Community College paralegal intern. See Law Day Short, column 1.



Honoring Law Day at APG



President Dwight D. Eisenhower established Law Day 44 years ago with a proclamation that eloquently set forth the reasons why we, as a free people, celebrate our heritage of liberty under law.

President Eisenhower noted that it was "fitting that the people of this Nation should remember with pride and vigilantly guard the great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law which our forefathers bequeathed to us." He said further that it is "our moral and civic obligation as free men and as Americans to preserve and strengthen that great heritage."

We are now engaged in a great struggle to preserve our liberties. Our nation has been attacked by terrorists who scoff at our freedoms and deprecate the principles that form the cornerstones of this great nation. Our democracy - the very rule of law - is under attack, but it will survive, as it has survived other crises in our past, and will emerge stronger because of the renewed support of the American people.

Let us dedicate ourselves, in celebrating Law Day this year, to the great values protected and preserved in our Constitution.

And, at the same time, let us recognize that democracy is not static; we must always work to improve and perfect it. Let us seek to draw ever closer to the ideal cut in stone over the entrance to the United States Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law."

Let us resolve that Law Day be an opportunity for all of us, in Government and the private sector, to examine our efforts to make equal justice a reality, and to work together to reach that goal.

For more than 200 years, America's charitable institutions and foundations, its lawyers and its courts, and countless others have worked to bring equal justice to as many people as possible.

Law Day 2002 is an opportune time to recognize the work of those who try

to make courts accessible and justice equal:

- Legal aid offices providing legal services to those unable to afford them
- Pro Bono public programs, under which private lawyers accept worthy cases at no fee
- Lawyer referral programs that help people find appropriate legal services
- Court programs designed to inform the public about laws and legal procedures, provide interpreters for those who need them, and generally make courts accessible.

We salute these efforts, but let us offer greater support to those who work daily to provide legal services to those who most need them. Let us dedicate ourselves to improving our courts and our justice system, so that we will truly have "justice for all."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Major General John C. Doesburg, do hereby designate Wednesday, May 1, 2002 as Law Day. I urge everyone of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities, while recognizing, especially during these difficult times, the importance of equal justice for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand and two, and the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

John C. Doesburg

JOHN C. DOESBURG
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Treasury restores millions to G Fund

Brian Friel
Govexec.com

The Treasury Department on April 16 restored \$27.7 million in interest to a federal employee retirement fund. The interest was withheld for nearly two weeks during a government debt crisis.

From April 4 to 15, Treasury suspended investment of as much as \$18.7 billion of federal employees' money in the G Fund, the portion of the federal 401k-style

Thrift Savings Plan that is normally invested in Treasury securities.

Treasury used the maneuver to avoid breaking the federal debt ceiling of \$5.95 trillion. Breaking the statutory ceiling could damage the government's credit.

"Recent revenues have enabled the Treasury to fully restore the G Fund as required by law," Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said in an April 17 letter to Congress. "The G Fund and its beneficiaries are

now in the same financial position as if investments had never been suspended, including a full credit for interest owed."

To avoid breaking the debt ceiling each day, the Treasury Department moved varying amounts of the \$40 billion G Fund into non-interest bearing accounts. On April 4, for example, \$13.7 billion was moved into non-interest bearing accounts. By April 15, the government owed the G Fund

See G FUND, page 5

Discuss issues at June 12 AFAP symposium

Sheila Little
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground will host an Army Family Action Plan Symposium on Wednesday, June 12, 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Top of the Bay.

Active duty servicemembers, civilian workers, family members, retirees and youth are invited to attend the annual meeting which focuses on

improving the quality of life for everyone connected with APG, by airing issues and finding acceptable solutions.

Most issues are resolved on the local level, although those with across-the-board implications may be sent to higher headquarters for resolution.

Realizing that not everyone can attend, those with

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Remembering Harford County Korean veterans

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Fun in the sun, safely

Free flight

An APG bald eagle enjoys its freedom after being released in the Lauderick Creek area. The eagle spent several weeks in an animal rehabilitation center recovering from a soft tissue wound before being returned to the wild on March 29.



Photo by JIM POTTIE

APG eagle returns to skies

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

An injured Aberdeen Proving Ground bald eagle was returned to its home habitat in March after a two-month rehabilitation in Pennsylvania. It was released near the Edgewood Area's Lauderick Creek on March 29 as a group of well-wishers looked on.

The eagle was found in distress at Skippers Point in January by two youths, who notified the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, or DLES, said Jim Pottie, fish and wildlife biologist for the proving ground.

Pottie and Steve Wampler, an environmental specialist with the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, transported the 11-pound adult female eagle to the Baltimore Zoo, which recommended it be taken to the TRISTATE Rehabilitation Center in Pennsylvania.

Wampler said the Baltimore Zoo, after an initial workup on the eagle, found nothing conclusive.

"There were no fractures so they determined it might be soft tissue damage sustained while diving into the water after a fish," Wampler said.

"TRISTATE is the premiere rehabilitative facility in the region," Pottie said, adding that after a few weeks of care the eagle was fully recovered and ready to be returned to the wild.

TRISTATE transporters David Houchin and his wife, Donna brought the eagle to the Edgewood Area's Lauderick Creek where several onlookers gathered to witness the event.

After placing the container on the ground and pausing for onlookers to ready their cameras, Houchin removed the top, and seconds later, the eagle emerged, then soared away across the field toward the tree line.

One of the officers who rescued the bird, Officer Matthew Stewart of the Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Division, was on hand for the release.

See EAGLE, page 14



Photo by CPT CHRISTINE RONEY
Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion soldiers get inspected by Sgt. 1st Class Kelvin Callicut, Headquarters and Headquarters 16th Ordnance Battalion, during the quarterly drill and ceremony competition. C Company was awarded first place in the competition for the second consecutive quarter on March 30. Soldiers shown from left to right are Pvts. Joseph Dirksz, Leon Fierge, Derin Stenglein, Naaman Brown, William Bolt, Lakeshia Crawford and Racheal Siddens.

Company C, 16th wins quarterly drill competition

By 1st Lt. David E. Sullivan

On March 16, three teams of 40 soldiers competed for the 143rd Ordnance Battalion Drill and Ceremony competition. Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion took first place in two events, the Formal and Fancy Drill competitions. Company A 16th placed second in fancy and third in formal, and Company B 16th placed third in fancy and second in formal. Sgt. 1st Class Sergeant Joseph Pressley, senior drill sergeant, assisted in preparing the soldiers for the competition. He said the competing teams were outstanding. “All three companies looked professional and excellent, and it’s a shame there could be only one winner,” Pressley said. “We worked hard, and it paid off. It must have been close because the other teams looked really good,” said Pvt. Chris Rodriguez, a member of the winning team. The Drill and Ceremony Competition is a tradition among Advanced Individual Training companies. The units compete against each other in the techniques of large scale marching. A panel of judges decides the winner. “Each team consists of one drill sergeant and 40 well-disci-

plined and highly motivated ordnance soldiers,” said 1st Sgt. Mark Malone of Company B 16th. The competition consists of each team executing two types of drills, the formal drill and the fancy drill, and accumulating as many of the 100 judging points as possible. In the formal drill, the drill sergeant leads the team through a march, executing 40 drill commands. The team that executes the most commands with the best synchronization wins. In the fancy drill, a student leads the team through a drill of the team’s own design. The drill is bound only by the limits of the imagination and is judged on originality, degree of difficulty and precision. The only rules of fancy drill are that maneuvers must be in good taste and have lots of “Hooha!” AIT students spend weeks preparing for the competition, sacrificing their personal time to practice for the big day.

Improved portability between NAF, APF

Jean Futtty
NAF

The fiscal year 2002 Defense Authorization signed into law by President Bush contained two changes involving retirement coverage effective Dec. 28 2001. Both changes improve portability between civil service and non-appropriated fund, or NAF, employment. First, the new law removes the requirement for employees to be vested (have five years service) in the losing retirement system when electing to remain in that system while moving between civil service and NAF positions. Prior to this change in law, employees were required to be vested in the losing retirement system before they were allowed the option to retain that retirement system while moving between civil service and NAF positions. The change applies to moves that occur on or after Dec. 28, 2001. Second, the new law allows

Civil Service Retirement System and Federal Employee Retirement System employees to use prior NAF service to meet the eligibility requirements for immediate retirement. This additional time is not counted towards their annuity. For example, an employee with one year of NAF service and 29 years CSRS or FERS service would be eligible for retirement based upon 30 years of service. The annuity for that employee would be calculated using the 29 years of service (rather than 30 years). In no case may credit be given toward both retirement systems. For additional information, call 410-278-8993.

Law Day

From front page

equal justice a reality for all of our citizens. It enables us to highlight efforts to make legal services affordable and widely available. It lets us look at ways of making American justice equal regardless of color, gender, disability, or economic status. It can encompass both court improvement projects and considerations of what equal justice means in other settings, such as schools and alternative programs for settling disputes.



Photo by E. C. STARNES
Some professional and friendly advice —Drill Sergeants (Staff Sgts.) Brian Brillhart, left, and David Kelly, right, talk with Pfc. Charles and Pvt. Sheenalyn Turner about their future life as an Army couple.

Turners join the Army of One together

E.C. Starnes
OC&S

Charles and Sheenalyn Turner didn't grow up dreaming of Army careers. In fact, from their point of view, there weren't a lot of career options to think about growing up in Rockingham, N.C.

Married for a year and a half, they decided they wanted to "broaden their horizons and get out of North Carolina." Charles, 21, was working as an electrical assistant and Sheenalyn, 18, was a mobile home sales representative.

It was Charles who thought about joining the Army.

"I decided to follow," said Sheenalyn. After about "1,000 questions for the recruiter," she noted, they chose to become power generation equipment repairers, Military Occupational Specialty

52D10. Both had looked at other fields, but the option that suited them best was 52D10 and the Ordnance Corps.

Charles has set aside his goal to become a military policeman for the time being. Sheenalyn has temporarily shelved her desire to join the medical field and work in disease control.

Friends and family had mixed reactions. It went from very supportive to one friend of Charles' who asked him, "Have you lost your mind?"

From among the 1,000 questions they asked the recruiter they learned about the Married Army Couples Program (MACP).

"They told us we would always be assigned within 50 miles of each other," Sheenalyn said. (There are currently 21,710 soldiers enrolled in the MACP.)

While they arrived for Advanced Individual Training at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools together, there was a time of separation as each went to different installations for basic training. Charles went to Fort Knox, Ky., while Sheenalyn received her training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

The next time they saw each other was during EXODUS leave in December.

Sheenalyn thought the experience of taking basic training at separate installations helped.

"We didn't have to worry about each other as much," she said.

She noted that they didn't have to deal with the feelings that might have been brought out if one was confronted by a drill sergeant in front of the other.

Because of the timing, they got together over the holidays and both returned to basic training.

"It was hard to split up again after EXODUS," Sheenalyn explained. But they soon joined each other at Aberdeen Proving Ground as members of Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion and students in the Tactical Support Equipment Department.

Sheenalyn credits her husband for getting her through the course, but he immediately said "she got herself through the course."

Both noted that there was a lot of confusion at first, since they were in the same classes.

"Are you cousins? Are you brother and sister?" were the questions they faced early on.

"It was funny at first because we had to explain so many times that we were husband and wife," Sheenalyn said.

While both were in the same company and the same classes, there was still some separation. After 8:30 p.m. until the first formation in the morning they could not see each other. Also, they could not visit each other's rooms.

In addition to classroom training, they spent countless hours questioning their drill sergeants about Army life, especially Army life for military couples.

"Our drill sergeants were great. I still had my 1,000 questions to ask," Sheenalyn noted.

Both Charles and Sheenalyn had a lot of praise for Staff Sgts. David Kelly, Brian Brillhart and Joseph Tipado. They said that among the three drill sergeants, they learned a lot about what they would be facing as a military couple in the Army.

Both are now looking forward to their first assignment at Fort Sill, Okla.

They are confident that they have learned enough to be able to start work upon arrival. And, one important lesson they have learned, according to Sheenalyn, is "time management. We both wanted to get



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AFAP

From front page

questions about areas such as housing, health care, child care, youth services, the commissary and exchange, morale welfare and recreation activities, and issues specific to soldiers, retirees and the work force, are asked to submit their questions in writing by May 7, to allow the agencies concerned the time to research viable options and solutions.

Dudley Laucks, Directorate of Information Management, is coordinating this year's seminar. He said hearing from a cross-section of the installation about the issues that concern them is key to improving the quality of life.

"The effectiveness of the symposium is directly related to the amount and quality of participation we receive," Laucks said. "We can't resolve a problem if we don't know it's a problem. Let's work together for the good of the installation," he added.

Include your name and a daytime telephone number with each submission. Describe the problem and explain how it affects quality of life on the installation, then offer suggestions for how the issue may be resolved. Unsigned questionnaires will be discarded. Mail your questions to building 324, Attn. Dudley Laucks, FAX to 410-278-7011, or e-mail dudley.laucks@usag.apg.army.mil.



Army News



Soldiers who ASK get preferred assignments

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

Everyday about 1,000 soldiers tell their assignment managers where they want to be stationed, and with the help of modernized programs, their wishes are being granted.

The Assignment Satisfaction Key, or ASK, was introduced to the Army Oct. 12, and it gives enlisted soldiers the capability to post assignment preferences directly onto the Total Army Personnel Database.

As of today 44,703 soldiers have visited <http://www.perscom.army.mil> providing personal contact data and listing preferences for stateside, overseas and special-duty assignments. The Army's goal is to get the entire population — 400,000 — to sign up within the next several months, said Sgt. Maj. Oscar Garcia, sergeant major for the Ordnance Corps career management branch.

Along with ASK, assignment managers work with new software referred to as SAM — Soldier Assignment Module. The software merges Army requirements with the assignment preferences of soldiers, Garcia said.

For example, career management branches are periodically given requisitions for special assignment such as drill

sergeant duty, recruiting and airborne. The software can identify qualified candidates, with volunteers at the top of the list.

"By policy, we will always accept a volunteer over a non-volunteer," Garcia said.

The idea behind SAM came from Garcia, but the system was designed by a sergeant first class with years of personnel management experience.

"I've used databases to manage personnel at my units. I would find out who was leaving, what grade and MOS, then get replacements," said Sgt. 1st Class Vince Marroquin, the Ordnance Branch force integrator.

"The sergeant major [Garcia] had the insight of what was needed and what the rules are for making an assignment. I know personnel and databases issues, so we worked together to help assignment managers make their decisions."

With this new technology, it couldn't get any easier for soldiers and assignment managers, Garcia explained.

"We had a soldier call up and ask to go to Korea," Garcia said. "The career manager asked if he had signed up with ASK. He had not. So the career manager talked him through the process."

"Next the career manager went onto SAM found out that there was a slot for

the soldier's grade and MOS, and that the soldier met the qualifications. Finally the assignment manager had the soldier log back onto ASK, and at the bottom of the screen it showed that he was on orders to Korea.

"**Now a soldier has a vote,**" Garcia said. "It's immediately seen by his branch manager, and it counts," he said.

Before a soldier can log onto ASK, they have to have an Army Knowledge Online account. ASK will require soldiers to select three stateside locations and three other preferences outside of the continental United States.

Preference locations mean that if a soldier has to rotate or do a special duty like drill sergeant or recruiter, this is the place or the duty he would prefer, Garcia said. The first two preference choices will be from the Army's 10 divisions, because that's where soldiers are needed most, he said. The other choice will be from an expanded listing which includes the divisional installations plus other CONUS installations.

Soldiers may also select three CONUS and three OCONUS volunteer locations. Garcia said volunteer locations mean that if a soldier were to move now, this is where he would want to go.

'Soldiers Forum' to give troops voice on Web

Army News Service

Soldiers worldwide are now invited to submit stories, commentaries and other articles to the Army News Service under a new program called "Soldiers Forum."

The best of the articles will be posted on the "ArmyLINK News" Web page at the end of each week and they will also be sent to Army newspaper editors at installations and commands across the globe for use on their commentary pages.

The purpose of the program is to "give soldiers a voice on ArmyLINK," said Col. Stephen Campbell, chief of Command Information at Department of the Army.

The articles should be more than just "complaint columns" Campbell said. He explained that if problems are brought up,

suggested solutions should be included in the article.

First-person accounts of combat in Afghanistan or duty in the Philippines are examples of articles that would be considered for publication, Campbell said. But those are the exceptions, rather than the norm. He said the column is looking for reflections and recommendations regarding everyday Army life.

More controversial topics affecting soldiers and their families might also be discussed, such as: drug abuse, domestic violence, street gangs, suicide prevention, retention, single-parent soldiering, OPTEMPO and PERSTEMPO.

Letters and articles should be sent to the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, ATTN: SAPA-CI (Soldiers Forum), Rm 2B720, 1500 Army Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-1500 or better yet, e-mailed to: arnews@hqda.army.mil.

Turners

From page 4

off post, especially after Phase 5, but we had things that had to get done before we could go."

Both agreed that they look forward to life as a military couple, and getting back to doing the things that husbands and wives do.

"I can't wait to cook," Sheenalyn said, and Charles said he is looking forward to her cooking after all the Army meals he's eaten.

They are also looking forward to another part of being a family.

Sheenalyn, who has always been competitive according to Charles, started falling out of runs at Aberdeen. Feeling ill, she went for a checkup and found out she is pregnant. In November there will be

another Turner in their Fort Sill quarters.

"One of the questions I kept asking was about shipping our pets. There are a lot of pets. I was told I couldn't have children," so the pets became a sort of substitute.

When the doctor told her she was pregnant Sheenalyn said she laughed at the doctor at first.

Now reality has set in. She still plans to remain on active duty after the baby is born.

Both stated they "don't regret joining the Army."

Their advice for others, single or married, is to "educate yourselves. Don't be afraid to ask [the recruiter] questions."

They depart Aberdeen Proving Ground April 23 and plan to drive to Fort Sill to start their new life in the Army of One, together.

G Fund

From front page

about \$27.7 million in interest.

As tax payments arrived at Treasury [last] week, the department was able to restore the interest and begin fully investing the G Fund each day.

The Thrift Savings Plan invests the retirement savings of federal employees and military personnel in five funds: the C, S, I, F and G Funds. The first four funds are invested in stocks and bonds. Because the G Fund is invested in government securities, it never loses value, operating more like an interest-bearing bank account than like a stock fund.

The G Fund maneuvers during the debt crisis are essentially paper exercises. TSP enrollees who withdrew money from the G Fund during the crisis would have received the same amount of money as if the G Fund had been invested normally each day.

Treasury is required by law to repay any outstanding interest owed to the G Fund. The

safeguard on G Fund investments, called the 'make-whole' provision, has been in place since President Reagan signed the 1987 Thrift Savings Fund Investment Act. The government tapped the G Fund three times in 1987, once in 1989 and once in 1995-1996. Each time, the government repaid the outstanding interest as soon as the debt ceiling was no longer threatened.

Treasury may have to turn to the G Fund again-and to other sources—in June to avoid breaching the debt limit, O'Neill said in his letter. He urged Congress to increase the debt limit by \$750 billion so that Treasury won't be forced to do the maneuver again.

Federal employee union representatives have been critical of the maneuver, arguing that the administration should not play with federal employees' money.

"Fiscal responsibility to federal employees and the American public should be above politics," National Treasury Employees Union President Colleen Kelley said at the beginning of April.

Sports & Recreation



Photo Courtesy of LT COL CARROLL LUCAS
Robert Pope, an Army retiree from the Aberdeen Proving Ground community, presses 300 pounds on the way to a first place finish in the masters, age 40 to 44 category of the U.S.A. Powerlifting Association meet in Charlottesville, Va. in March. Pope and three others from APG finished first in their divisions.

APG lifters bring home the gold

1st Lt David Sullivan
143rd Ordnance Battalion

Four Aberdeen Proving Ground weight lifters won first place in their divisions at the U.S.A. Powerlifting Association meet in Charlottesville, Va., in March.

The event included the squat, bench press and dead lift competitions.

The winners were Army Reserve Lt. Col. Carroll Lucas, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command; Sgt. Edgar Baotista, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade; Robert Pope, retiree and Margaret McLean, family member.

Pope took first place in the master's category, age 40 to 44; Lucas won the master's age 45 to 50, McLean won the women's masters, age 44 to 50, and Baotista took first in the sub-masters 35 to 39 age group.

Sports shorts

Intramural Dead Lift Competition

Competition is open to all APG military and civilian patrons 18 years of age and over. Military team rosters are due by April 26. For more information, contact Donna Coyne, at 278-3929 or donna.coyne@usag.apg.army.mil.

Intramural Golf

The rules clinic and entry deadline for Intramural Golf is May 2. The meeting will be held at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326 at 1:30 p.m. The season begins May 9 at Ruggles Golf Course. The league is a nine hole, two-man, best ball format.

Intramural Softball

The meeting and sign-up deadline for Intramural Softball is May 9, 2 p.m. at the APG Athletic Center, building 3300. The pre-season tournament begins May 21, and the regular season begins on June 3.

All Army Sports Applications

Active duty soldiers interested in participating on All Army Sports Teams for the following sports must submit an application to the APG Sports Office by the due date:

- Softball, May 13
- Golf, July 16
- Rugby, July 26

Candidates are advised to read Army Regulation 215-1, section 20c, which reviews the standards for All Army participation. Visit the Army Sports Web site at armymwr.com/mwr/armysports.

Soldiers must be assigned to a unit at APG at the time the application is due. For more information contact Donna Coyne at 410-278-3929.

Armed Forces Day Fun Run

The 5th annual AFD Fun Run will be held May 18, 2 p.m. at Festival Park, in downtown Aberdeen. For more information, contact Donna Coyne, at 278-3929 or donna.coyne@usag.apg.army.mil.

Volleyball update

The following results were reported for intramural volleyball for the week ending April 19.

American Division

Results

April 15

HHC 143rd defeated Company A 308th MI, 15-9; 15-9

HHC 16th defeated NCOA, 15-4; 15-8

April 17

HHC 16th defeated

Company A 308th MI, 15-10; 15-8

HHC 143rd defeated KUSAHC, 17-15; 15-8

Schedule

April 29

6:30 p.m., Company A 308th MI vs. NCOA

7:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. KUSAHC

May 1

6:30 p.m., Company A 308th MI vs. HHC 143rd

7:30 p.m., NCOA vs. HHC 16th

Standings

HHC 143rd	5-0
HHC 16th	4-1
KUSAHC	2-3
Company A 308th MI	1-4
NCOA	0-4

Edgewood Division

Results

All game cancelled/rescheduled

Standings

MRICD	4-0
CHPPM	2-1
Company A 143rd	1-2
Company B 143rd	1-2
Company C 143rd	0-3

National Division Results

April 16

Company E 16th defeated Company C 16th, 15-3; 15-12

Company A 16th defeated Company B 16th, 15-10; 15-11

USMC defeated HHC 1/115th, 15-8; 15-13

Schedule

April 30

6:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. USMC

7:15 p.m., Company C 16th vs. Company B 16th

8 p.m., HHC 1/115th vs. Company E 16th

May 2

6:30 p.m., Company C 16th vs. Company E 16th

7:30 p.m., Company B 16th vs. Company A 16th

8 p.m., USMC vs. HHC 1/115th

Standings

USMC	5-0
Company E 16th	4-1
HHC 1/115th	1-2
Company C 16th	1-3
Company B 16th	1-3
Company A 16th	1-3

3 on 3 Basketball results

Military Men

First Round

Company C 16th, 16; Company E 16th, 10
Company B 16th, 16; USMC, 5

Company C 16th, 16; Company E 16th, 2
USAF 16; Company C 16, 12
Company C 16th, 16; USMC, 6

Second Round

HHC 61st 17; Company C 16th, 15
Company C 16th, 18; Company B 16th, 16
USMC, 16; Company C 16th, 10
USAF, 16; Company C 16th, 6

Semi-final

HHC 61st, 16; Company C 16th, 10
USAF, 16; USMC, 10

Championship

USAF, 17; HHC 61st, 15

High Scorers

HHC 61st:
Thomas, 7; Hewitt, 4; Thompson, 2
USAF:
Webb, 10; Vaught, 4; Driggs, 3

Military Women

Semi-final

Company C 16th, 7; USMC, 5

Championship

Company E 16th, 14; Company C 16th, 3

High scorers

Company E 16th:
Ruschak, 12; Archino, 1; Kent, 1

Company C 16th:
Castle, 5

Civilian Men

Kings, 14; Rufus', 13
Arana's, 16; KUSAHC, 12
HHC 61st, 16; Kings, 12

Championship

HHC 61st, 16; Arana's, 14

High scorers

Arana's:
Lewis, 6; Arana, 5; Cooper, 3
HHC 61st:
Cole, 7; Pettitway, 3; Hester, 3; Beasley, 3

Avoiding ladder missteps

Sheila Little
APG News

With the advent of spring cleanup on the installation, more people are using ladders to help maintain their yards, homes and work sites.

Susie Ashby, Directorate of Safety Health and Environment, reminds personnel and residents to keep safety in mind and use caution when using step and extension ladders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, or CPSC, offers the following suggestions to avoid becoming one of the reported 164,000 annual emergency room visitors with a ladder-related injury.

Ladder safety tips

- Only one person should use the ladder at a time.
- The ladder should be of an appropriate length, extending three feet over the working surface. Do not stand on the top three rungs.
- Use the four for one rule with straight ladders. For every four feet in height, set the base of the ladder one foot from the wall.
- Metal ladders will conduct electricity. Use a fiberglass or wooden ladder in the vicinity of powerlines or electrical equipment.
- Make sure extension ladders have slip-resistant feet. In addition, all locks should be properly engaged.
- The ground under a ladder should be flat and firm. A good



practice is to have a helper hold the ladder to stabilize. Tying off a ladder at the top will also add stabilization.

- Do not place a ladder over a doorway that is not locked, blocked or guarded.
 - Keep your body centered between the rails of the ladder at all times.
 - Do not step on the top step, bucket shelf or climb onto the rear section of a stepladder.
 - Never leave a raised ladder unattended.
- In addition, Ashby said, other ways to promote ladder safety include:
- Check the ladder to see that it is in good repair before using.
 - Never paint a wooden ladder. Paint may obscure cracks and other defects. Use a clear finish or wood preservative.
 - Keep your hands free to climb. Carry tools on a tool belt or hoist them up after you climb. Wear non-skid footwear, and don't over-reach.
 - Check out the surroundings before moving a ladder to stay away from power lines and obstacles on the ground. Large ladders may take two people to move safely.

Ashby suggests the buddy system when using a ladder. One person can climb while the other holds the ladder and watches for hazards.

“Taking a little time to inspect the ladder and review safety guidelines before using one may help you avoid a serious injury from a fall or other accident,” said Ashby.



Morale, Welfare and Recreation

A registration form for any activity listed below can be found in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Program brochure located at MWR facilities and tenant organizations on Aberdeen Proving Ground. The March through May 2002 issue has a yellow cover.

For more information, call Gwen Meadows, 410-278-4497, or Kelly Hill, 410-278-9816.

Step aerobics

Class is held every Monday and Wednesday starting April 29, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. for 10 weeks at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, building 3300. Cost is \$10. For more information, e-mail her at gwyn.dolzine@usag.apg.army.mil or call 410-278-9725.

MWR Expo

MWR will hold an expo May 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326.

For more information, e-mail her at earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil or call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854.

Lunchtime Tai Chi

Class is every Monday and Wednesday starting May 6, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for eight weeks at the AA Youth Center. Cost is \$40. For more information, e-mail her at stacie.edie@usag.apg.army.mil or call Stacie Edie at 410-278-3931.

Tai Chi

Class is every Monday and Wednesday starting May 6, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center or every Tuesday and Thursday starting May 7, 6 to 7 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Recreation Center. Cost is \$40. For more information, e-mail her at stacie.edie@usag.apg.army.mil or call Stacie Edie at 410-278-3931.

Introduction to the Irons

Class is May 1, 5 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. Cost is \$10. For more information, e-mail her at marni.allison@usag.apg.army.mil or call Marni Allison at 410-278-5567.

Commentary - Life of a military child

In recognition of April being the month of the military child, military children from several local schools were asked to submit their comments about growing up in a military family. One brave soul came through, and his comments are published below.

Being a military kid means a lot more than having to move around the world. Being a military kid means that you have the distinct honor of being the child of a member of the finest military in the world.

In my experience as a military kid, I have noticed that children of military parents are unique. In their trek across the globe, they have been exposed to different cultures and customs. From this they have made themselves to be a blend of many people. Let's be honest, the residents of Tucson, Az., aren't the same as people from Aberdeen.

Military kids have an independent characteristic about them. Their parents are constantly at work, defending the country. In their parent's absence, they learn how

to go about their day on their own.

A lot more is expected of a military kid. From their military career, a mother or father passes down the values of discipline, respect, and orderliness to their children. If I were a teacher, I would trust military kids more than anybody else.

Being a military kid is more than moving, it is about representing the values that this nation was founded on.

Jessie Atchison
(Editor's note: Jessie Atchison is in the eighth grade at Aberdeen Middle School and is the son of Evelyn and Maj. Chessley R. Atchison, of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.)

Community Notes

**THURSDAY
APRIL 25
‘ONE WAY 2 PLAY-DRUG FREE’**

Child and Youth Services Division, the Chaplain Activities Office, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes is sponsoring “One Way 2 Play-Drug Free,” a program to confront the problem of drugs and alcohol among young people.

Steve Fitzhugh, a former Denver Broncos National Football League football player, will speak at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Theater, 7 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297, or Ivan Mehosky, 410-278-2857. Youth must be at least 13 years old to attend.

THE YOUNG COLUMBIANS TO PERFORM

“The Young Columbians,” a song and dance ensemble based in Columbia, Md., will perform at 4:30 p.m. at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, in the Bel Air Nazarene Church.

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 27 AND 28
‘HELLO DOLLY’**

The St. Paul’s Players of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church will present “Hello, Dolly!” April 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. General admission seating is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. For reservations, call the box office at 410-734-7429. The church is located at 201 Mt. Royal Ave. and Route 22 in Aberdeen.

This production of “Hello, Dolly!” is supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency funded by the State of Maryland and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information, call 410-272-3111.

**SATURDAY
APRIL 27
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit the Good Shepherd Catholic School will be held at the Good Shepherd School, 810 Aiken Avenue, Perryville, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Tickets cost \$10. Additional sets can be purchased for \$5. For tickets, call the Good Shepherd School, 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**SUNDAY
APRIL 28
BASKET BINGO**

American Legion Post 194, Rising Sun, is sponsoring a basket bingo. Games begin at 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 28. For more information, call 410-658-3915.

AKA SORORITY CHAPTER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Xi Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will be celebrating its 20th anniversary at the Holy Trinity Church, Churchville (off of Route 155) from 10 to 11 a.m. The members will worship together as a chapter in celebration of this event. Reception will follow service in church hall.

**THURSDAY
MAY 2
CEREBRAL PALSY INFORMATION BRIEFING**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Committee for the Disabled presents Mary S. Webb, R.N., and George M. Andrews, from the United Cerebral Palsy Association, at 2:30 p.m. in the Osprey Room at the Gunpowder Club, Edgewood Area.

A person with cerebral palsy is not able to use some of the muscles in their body in the normal way because of an injury to their brain. Find out the risk factors involved in this medical condition, how it is diagnosed, treatment options, caregiver issues, available assistive technology and local area resources.

The presentation is open to the entire APG community. For more information, call Angela Cheek, 410-278-1140. (This presentation is not an APG endorsement of the United Cerebral Palsy Association, and is only intended to provide educational information.)

HARFORD YOUTH COALITION MEETING

The next meeting of the Harford Youth Coalition is held 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the W.A.G.E. Connection, Beards Hill Shopping Center, Aberdeen.

The Harford Youth Coalition is producing a quarterly Youth Calendar of Events for any/all activities for Harford County Youth. To be included in this publication, send calendar items to e-mail: ABetterHarford@aol.com, fax 443-643-4262 (Attn: ABHT - Youth Coalition), or mail to 15 Churchville Rd, Suite 115, PMB 107, Bel Air, MD 21014. Deadline for submission is Monday, April 29. (Youth Calendar of Events will be distributed at the meeting.)

For more information or to respond, call 443-643-4260.

**FRIDAY
MAY 3
AKA SORORITY HOLDS ‘IVY BALL’**

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Xi Delta Omega Chapter presents “Ivy Ball,” at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Dinner will be served at 9 p.m. After-five attire is requested. Music will be provided by Nu Level Entertainment.

A donation of \$35 per person is requested. All proceeds will benefit Xi Delta Omega’s scholarship program. For tickets, call Helen Chapman, 410-457-5448, Gyleen Fitzgerald, 410-399-5859, or Agnes Minor, 410-939-5368.

**FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY
MAY 3 TO 5
DECOY, WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL**

The 21st Annual Havre de Grace Decoy and Wildlife Art Festival will take place at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum and Havre de Grace Middle and High Schools. Over 160 carvers and artists from all over the country will be exhibiting their work, which includes antique and gunning decoys, decorative carvings, photography and flat art. Sporting goods manufacturers and collectors, state and federal environmental programs, wildlife protection groups and bird clubs will also be featured.

The festival will be held 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 3; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 4; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 5. Cost of admission is \$5 per day or \$8 for a

weekend pass. Children under 12 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum is located at the intersection of Market and Giles streets. For more information, call 410-939-3739.

**SATURDAY
MAY 4
WACVA MONTHLY MEETING**

The Women’s Army Corps Veterans Association Maryland Free State Chapter #70 will hold their next meeting 10 a.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Citizen Center, 7 Franklin Street. All women who have served or are serving in the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps, Women’s Army Corps, Regular Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard and Army Nurse Corps are welcome to attend. Also welcome as associate members, are women of the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. For more information about the association, contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040 or visit Web sites www.wacva.com or www.armywomen.org.

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 8
EAOWC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT LUNCHEON**

The Edgewood Area Officers’ Wives Club will hold a luncheon to honor this year’s scholarship recipients at the Four Points Sheraton, located in the Beards Hill area of Aberdeen, off 95 at Route 22. A time of socializing is planned for 11:30 a.m., followed by a pasta buffet and introduction of this year’s scholars. The lunch includes salad, two pasta and sauce combinations, dessert, and coffee or hot or iced tea.

To make your reservation for the buffet, which includes tax and gratuity for \$14.10, e-mail Linda Kuchar, linku2000@aol.com, or call 410-838-5265, by May 3

**THURSDAY
MAY 9
EATEEN JOB PREPARATION WORKSHOP**

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program, Child and Youth Service Liaison/Youth Education Services, Bel Air Workforce will sponsor an Aberdeen Proving Ground Teen Job Preparation Workshop, 4 to 6 p.m., at the EA Youth Center, building E-1902. Topics include resumes, paychecks, interview skills, job skills and completing applications, and will assist in giving youth the opportunity to achieve their highest potential in learning and working.

For more information or registration, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness, 410-278-9669, or Ivan Mehosky, CYS School Liaison/Youth Education Services, 410-278-2857.

**THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY
MAY 9, 10 AND 11
MILITARY VEHICLE RALLY**

The 29th Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, featuring a military flea market and swap meet, will be May 9 to 11, dawn to dusk, in Churchville on Route 22, three miles from Aberdeen and Aberdeen Proving Ground, in conjunction with Ordnance Week. Take exit 85 west (Route 22) from Interstate 95. Look for the Big M Drive-In Theater. Visit the rally Web site, aberdeentrally@aol.com, for a schedule of events and more information.

**FRIDAY
MAY 10
OPEN MIKE POETRY NIGHT, DANCE**

All poets are welcomed to the Open Mike Poetry Night, 8 to 11 p.m., at the Holiday Inn, Aberdeen. Dancing will be held from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dress to impress - no jeans, boots, bandannas, sweats or sneakers. Open to ages 21 and over with proper ID. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$10 at the door. Music will be provided by DJ Sir Knight. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Sgt. 1st Class Copeland, 1-877-937-9936.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit a Girl Scout trip to Savannah, the home of the Girl Scouts, will be held at the Elk’s Lodge, Route 40, Havre de Grace. Doors open at 6 p.m.; bingo begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10; additional sets are sold for \$5. Food, drink and baked goods will be available. For tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY
MAY 10 to 12
PENTAGON QUILTS AT EXPO CENTER**

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, the American public reached out with affection to the people in the Pentagon in countless ways. Many quilts were tucked in among the thousands of gifts and letters of condolences received. Seasoned quilters and second graders, people from small towns and big cities, government colleagues as well as well-wishers from Canada and Singapore sent quilts as an expression of their concern and caring.

At least 16 of these treasured Pentagon Quilts will be on public display for the first time during the Quilters Unlimited 29th Annual Quilt Show, May 10 to 12, at the Dulles Expo Center (formerly Capital Expo and Conference Center), 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly, Va. More than 400 additional quilted items and 70 vendors will also be represented.

Admission is \$5 for a one-day pass or \$10 for three-days. No food, drink or strollers in the exhibit hall. The show will be open on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call June Forte, office of the assistant secretary of defense (public affairs), 703-695-7778 or visit the Web site, www.quiltersunlimited.org.

**SATURDAY
MAY 11
60TH ANNIVERSARY WAC LUNCHEON**

The Women’s Army Corps Veteran’s Association Maryland Free State Chapter 70 is hosting the 60th Anniversary WAC Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Aberdeen’s Four Points Sheraton Hotel. Cost is \$25. To reserve a seat, call 410-272-5040.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard



ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS

Friday, April 26, 7 p.m.
Starring: Ice Cube, Mike Epps

Bucum’s dream is to open his own private investigation firm, but for the time being he’s stuck following the trail of small-time crooks, like Reggie. Things start to look up for Reggie when his lottery ticket is the sole winner of a \$60 million jackpot. It seems like Reggie’s bad luck is back, especially when Bucum returns to take him in. (Rated R)

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, April 27, 7 p.m.
Starring: Josh Hartnett, Shannyn Sossamon



Lent, that time of year when everybody gives something up, is when Matt decides to go where no man’s gone before and make a vow: No sex for 40 straight days. He has everything under control until the woman of his dreams, Erica, walks into his life. (Rated R)

RESIDENT EVIL

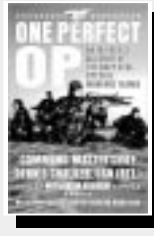
Saturday, April 27, 9 p.m.
Starring: Mila Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez



A virus has escaped in a secret facility called “The Hive” turning all researchers into hungry zombies and releasing the mutated lab animals that they were studying. The government sends in an elite military task force to contain the virus before it escapes and infects the rest of the world. (Rated R)

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

These recently published titles are available at the APG MWR Library:



One Perfect Op: one man’s extraordinary account of his involvement in the Navy’s elite and top-secret Special Forces teams by Dennis Chalker



Daddy’s Little Girl by Mary Higgins Clark



Annuals for Every Purpose: choose the right plants for your conditions, your garden, and your taste by Larry Hodgson



Lucky Man: a memoir by Michael J. Fox



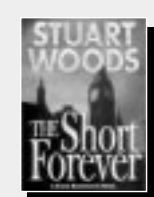
Stupid White Men - - and other sorry excuses for the state of the nation! by Michael Moore.



The Eyre Affair by Jasper Fforde



The Kingfisher’s Call by John Reed



Revenge: a story of hope by Laura Blumenfeld

The Short Forever by Stuart Woods

Killing Monsters: why children need fantasy, and make-believe violence by Gerard Jones

You can receive a complete listing of the library’s new materials via e-mail and also reserve items electronically. Contact the library for details.

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The Edgewood Area library is only open on Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

OC&S LIBRARY

The Ordnance Center and Schools Library is located in the basement of building 3071.



Fast Tanks and Heavy Bombers, Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917-1945 by David E. Johnson

The designer’s Lexicon, The Illustrated Dictionary of Design, Printing, and Computer Terms by Alastair Campbell.



Basic Industrial Electricity, A Training and Maintenance Manual by Kenneth G. Oliver

Alpha Teach Yourself Retirement Planning in 24 hours by Alan Feigenbaum and Lita Epstein

The Presidents, A Reference History by Henry F. Graff

The OC&S Library hours are Monday, noon to 4:15 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. and Friday, noon to 4:15 p.m.



Remembering Harford Veterans



Korea — 50 years ago this month, April 4-25

Jim Caldwell

TRADOC News Service

April 4 — The U.N. Security Council holds its first meeting in the new headquarters building in New York City.

April 4 to 10 — Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, Supreme U.N. commander, visits Panmunjom April 4. He tells reporters the truce talks are “making progress.”

April 5 — First Lt. James A. Van Fleet Jr., 26, son of the Eighth Army commander and a B-26 pilot, is reported missing over North Korea.

The U.S. Air Force reports that its pilots had shot down 15 MiGs during the seven-day period ending today. They also say there were four “probables” and 21 damaged enemy fighters. Two F-86s are shot down in dogfights and four more lost to various causes during the same week.

April 6 — The French government reports that a two-week campaign by French and Vietnam government troops wiped out the Viet Minh 320th Division in the Red River delta south of Hanoi. Their body count listed 4,568 enemy killed, 2,180 captured.

April 7 — In New York, Sirdar J.J. Singh, president of the India American League, says that an undetermined number of American mercenary pilots are smuggling weapons and supplies to 13,000 Nationalist Chinese unable to escape to Formosa in a northern province on the Thailand border.

April 8 — Screening of the prisoners on Kojedo begins again. The U.N. staff is surprised when it turns out that of the 170,000 prisoners interviewed, only 70,000 choose repatriation. Gen. Van Fleet decides to move those not wanting to return to the North to the mainland.

April 9 — A Defense Department spokesman reports that as of April 5 the American casualties in Korea stand at 107,134, including 18,723 killed.

A 16-day wargame, Exercise Long Horn, involving 115,000 soldiers and airmen, ended today at Fort Hood, Texas. There were 11 men killed in accidents. Two died due to high winds during an airdrop of 3,120 paratroopers. There were 232 injuries during the jump.

April 11 to 13 — While U.S. officials in Washington express optimism about the truce talks, no progress is made at Panmunjom. The ROK Army announces that so far during “Operation Ratkiller,” it has killed or captured 21,051 communist guerrillas operating in the south. There are still 2,000 to 3,000 to be rounded up. U.S. F-86 pilots say they shot down at least six MiG-15s on Easter Sunday.

April 14 to 17 — U.N. troops in IX Corps’ eastern section are driven off key hills by communist troops April 14 and retake the positions the next day.

There are increased combat patrols all along the front during the week. One of those patrols is carried out by three platoons of Company K, 15th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division in IX Corps’ east central area on April 16. Their mission is to capture a prisoner from a reinforced Chinese rifle platoon on a hill nicknamed Italy because of its shape. A screening team checks the route during the day and declares it safe.

There has been heavy sporadic rain all day. When the three platoons leave at 9:20 p.m., a cold wind is blowing and the ground is thick mud. The terrain is a series of hills rising sharply out of flat rice paddies. Medics and South Korean litter bearers are attached to the assault platoon.

An ambush force has left earlier and is in place to stop prevent the Chinese 500 meters east of Italy, from going to help their countrymen.

The security platoon has no problem getting its machine guns and riflemen into position on Hill 128.

When the platoons round Hill 128, there are only rice paddies between them and Italy. Then a flare from the U.S. lines pops above them. They drop in to the cold mud. Another flare follows shortly after and the men drop to the mud again. A call to battalion fails to stop the flares. The scene is repeated several more times until they arrive at the base of Italy. The base of fire platoon sets up its light machine guns by a creek flowing across the valley. There is no cover so the gunners are exposed.

The assault platoon starts up the approach to a small rise above them. When they get there, they hear a Chinese voice then a sharp command and enemy burp guns open up on them and the base of fire team below.

One man is killed and three wounded in the assault team, and a machine gunner is hit four times in a leg. The ambush infuriates the Americans who they fire back with every weapon they have. The firefight lasts for 10

minutes until the Chinese withdraw. The soldiers have fired 8,000 rounds and ammo is low so the platoons withdraw. The litter bearers ran away when firing started, so the men rig litters with their field jackets and M1 rifles to carry out the wounded and the dead.

Although they take turns carrying the litters, the GIs are exhausted when they reach their lines at about 3:30 a.m. on April 17. During the day, a battalion raiding group checks out the scene of the ambush. There are no enemy bodies, but there are a lot of bloody bandages. On future patrols, to prevent ambushes, screening teams remain in place instead of coming back in.

April 14 — The reds say they are ready to go back to the table, but the U.N. team members delay. They are trying to find a way the communists can accept a prisoner swap at the 38th Parallel without losing face. Communist radio says that “voluntary” repatriation is unacceptable. They’re still smarting over the fact that more than 100,000 prisoners held by the U.N. do not want to return to the communist side.

April 14 — The South Korean government in Seoul honors Gen. James Van Fleet on his one-year anniversary as commander of Eighth Army. He tells the gathering that communist casualties had outnumbered U.N. casualties by 530,696 to 66,000 during that year.

April 16 — A Defense Department spokesman reports that American casualties as of April 11 number 107,371 with 16,848 dead.

April 17 — Cpl. Duane Dewey earns the Medal of Honor and two months to recover in a hospital when his platoon meets a surprise attack from the Chinese. Dewey is part of a reinforced platoon from Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division that was on its last night of outpost duty. The outpost is about a mile from Panmunjom. At 11 p.m., about 500 Chinese charge with bugles and horns blaring and heavy small arms fire hitting the Marines’ perimeter.

A machine gunner, Dewey is seeing his first combat. Yet, he fires effective bursts into the Chinese for about an hour until he runs out of ammo. With bullets whizzing around him, he runs across the open perimeter to get ammo from another gun. He is dragging the can back when an enemy grenade explodes behind him, sending a piece of shrapnel into his left calf. A corpsman appears to treat his wound. While the corpsman is working, another grenade lands by Dewey’s head and rolls down beside his hip.

Dewey pushes the corpsman out of the way and rolls onto the grenade. It explodes beneath him.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower presents the Medal of Honor to Dewey on March 13, 1953. Ike tells him, “You must have a body of steel.”

April 17 — The South Korean government reports that it had to buy 70,000 tons of U.S. barley to offset food shortages during a “spring hunger season.” Officials say the country paid \$7 million for the grain, needed because of the war’s “dislocation and devastation.”

A U.S. government spokesman says that military equipment, not counting ships and planes, shipped to France under a military aid program, passed 1 million tons.

April 19 — The Defense Department says that it will extend enlistments by nine months for 60,000 soldiers, 35,000 sailors, 25,000 airmen and 4,500 marines who would be discharged in fiscal 1953.

April 21 — Fifth Air Force announces that F-86 Sabrejet pilots reported downing seven MiGs and damaging six in three dogfights today. No American losses reported.

In the seven-day period ending April 17, the spokesman said Sabrejet pilots shot down seven MiGs while one Sabrejet was lost. Four other U.N. planes were lost to other causes.

April 22 — The Navy says North Korean shore batteries have been strengthened, are probably directed by radar and have a 10-mile range. Over the past 18 months, the communist gunners have hit 41 ships, 31 off Wonsan. Casualties from the artillery have been light, however, casualties on 10 ships that hit enemy mines were heavier.

An atomic bomb explosion over Yucca Flat was televised to the nation, as well as carried live on radio. About 2,100 soldiers took cover in trenches and foxholes three-and-one-half to four-and-one-quarter miles from ground zero. They felt the heat and concussion from the blast but were declared unhurt. About an hour later, they went into the blast zone. Almost two hours later 120 paratroopers from the 504th Airborne Infantry jumped into the area.

April 23 — A Defense Department spokesman reports that as of April 18 American casualties in Korea number 107,666, with 18,858 dead.



Photos courtesy of LEO COAKLEY
Leo E. Coakley, second from right, and his brothers Gail, Gene, and Ron, from left, honor the colors during a Memorial Day parade in Lancaster, Ohio in 1998. Veterans all, Leo, Gene and Ron participated in the Korean War and Gail went to Vietnam. Gene was a prisoner of war in Korea.



Christmas tree bulbs hang from the tree behind Leo Coakley as he spends his first Christmas away from home in Taegu, Korea, in 1953.

Two-branch veteran also APG retiree

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

Leo E. Coakley said the main thing he remembers about Korea is that he didn’t like it.

The retired Navy Petty Officer 1st Class, began his career in the Air Force in 1953, just after the ceasefire.

Coakley volunteered to join the service immediately after he graduated from high school. He said that with one brother already serving in Korea, the decision was not hard.

“I was only 17 so I had to get my parents permission, but I was determined to join,” Coakley said. Unknown to Coakley at the time, his older brother Gene was a prisoner of war in Korea.

Coakley entered the Air Force and after electrician school in Cheyenne, Wyo., was assigned to the 58th Fighter Bomber Wing at K-2 Airbase in Taegu, South Korea.

“It was after the cease fire

but believe me, it was still a war zone,” Coakley said. “We still pulled guard duty and Bed Check Charlie would still fly over every night.”

As a traffic communicator, Coakley said one of his duties was to man remote transmitter sites.

“I spent my last six months with a buddy on a hilltop away from everyone else,” Coakley said, adding that they pulled two 12-hour shifts, manning their bunker and changing the old BC-610 transmitter antennae whenever radio frequencies changed.

“We had to manually change antenna links and retune to different frequencies,” Coakley said, adding that the stations controlled troop and support transmissions as well as information, maintenance and weather.

“We had an important job. I learned a lot, but I was ready to leave,” Coakley said.

After one year, he did leave, returning to the states

then to a tour in Japan before he left the Air Force in 1957. He joined the Navy two and one half years later, serving around the world on nuclear powered ships and submarines for much of his career. He retired at Norfolk Naval Station in 1975.

Coakley said the military runs in his close knit family, and credited his brothers with helping to keep him focused throughout his career.

His older brother, Gene, the former POW is now the Veterans of Foreign Wars post commander in his hometown. His brother Ron served in the Army in Korea after he left, and his younger brother, Gail served in Vietnam.

“I’m the only one who retired, but we all served our country,” Coakley said.

Coakley retired as an avionics technician from APG’s Phillips Army Airfield in 1991. He lives in Aberdeen with his wife, Barbara.



Photo courtesy of <http://www.army.mil/cmhp/pg/photos/Korea>

Soldiers level dirt and rock placed over a log roadway in Korea in March 1952. Spring thaws and rains turned the roadways into rivers.

Frequent flier miles rule finalized

Tanya N. Ballard

Govexec.com

The General Services Administration published final rules for the new frequent flier mile benefit in the Federal Register Friday.

The fiscal 2002 Defense Authorization bill, signed into law in December, included a provision allowing civil service, military and foreign service employees to use frequent flier miles obtained on government travel for personal use.

Prior to the law’s passage, federal employees were not allowed to use their frequent flier miles because the 1994 Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act (Public Law 103-355) pro-

hibited them from accepting promotional items, including frequent flier miles, they received while traveling at the government’s expense.

The provision drew overwhelming support from Congress, where legislators argued that allowing federal workers to keep their frequent flier miles would help federal retention and recruitment efforts.

In the months since the bill’s passage, GSA has revised and amended the Federal Travel Regulation to reflect the change in law.

In January, GSA issued a travel advisory explaining the new benefit, including how to establish accounts and how to use and retain miles already earned.

Commentary

Single and prepared



Yvonne Johnson
APG News

I was a single parent for 13 of the 19 years I was in the Army. Although I wouldn't recommend it, I believe that being a single parent made me stronger in ways that might not have occurred otherwise.

The two things a single parent has to be good at is being prepared and learning to do more on less sleep.

I used to tell people my day began at 8 p.m. when my two sons went to bed. That's when I would tidy up the house, iron my uniform, shine my boots, get the kids clothes and lunches ready for the next day, get to bed about 1 a.m., rise about 4:30 a.m., get the kids to the babysitter, come home and get ready for physical training, work all day, pick the kids up, and start all over again. That was a good day. Throw in a 4 a.m. alert, a field exercise, a PTA meeting or evening college courses and things got hairier.

The main thing I remember about those early days of motherhood is being tired all the time. Often, I was cruising on autopilot, with little recollection of what happened yesterday, and focused only on getting through the next day.

My sons spent many nights with my babysitter, and when my oldest first spoke the word "Momma," it was to her, not me. I never got to see them

take their first steps and I missed a few birthdays while in the field or on temporary duty travel.

The mission comes first in the military and nobody understands that better than a single parent. When you're a parent, responsibility stares you in the face every morning. When you're a soldier responsible for other soldiers, it often doesn't let you get to sleep. With a squad of young troops to watch over, it sometimes seemed I was more a parent than a soldier. Many days I spent more time with my troops than with my children.

However, that is the price you pay for having your family with you while you serve your country. You have to be ready for the unexpected and ensure your subordinates are ready as well. Prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

The military taught me the importance of having a workable family care plan. Mine was initiated once, during the Gulf War while I was stationed in Germany. My plan was so intact, that I had significantly fewer problems than a lot of dual parents in my unit. To be fair, I perfected the plan years before while assigned to a rapid deployment unit in Georgia. It didn't make leaving my kids any easier, but at least I didn't have to worry about their welfare while I was gone.

Family care plans are not just a good idea for the military but also for the civilian world.

Parents must never forget that their children depend on them. Illness, injury or death does not excuse us from that responsibility. Whether single, divorced, separated or widowed, single parenting is an awesome task. We relieve some of that tension by establishing a viable plan for our children in our absence.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Single mom, Sgt. 1st Class Stephanie McGee, right, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, closes out her day over homework with her children, Brian, 14 and Ashley, 12, at the kitchen table in their Bayside Village home.

APG single parents driven to excel

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

As recently as 25 years ago, there was no such thing as single parenting in the military. Today, single parents can be found throughout the services due in part to military programs and services designed to assist single parents and to the professionalism displayed by many military parents.

One such professional on Aberdeen Proving Ground agrees that the military holds special challenges for parents, whether single or dual military.

Sgt. 1st Class Stephanie McGee is the noncommissioned officer in charge of the secretary general staff in the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command. McGee is a divorced mother of two children, Brian, 14 and Ashley, 12.

The 14-year veteran entered the military in 1988, a young bride with a civilian husband. She said the military life style strained her marital relationship, which ended in 1996.

"The adjustment was hard for him," she said adding that things got better when he got a better paying job.

The marriage ended, however, after a tour in Korea left him back home with the children for 18 months. Though she knew it would be difficult, McGee said she decided to remain in the military.

"I wasn't sure if I made the right decision but I knew I wanted to complete my career," McGee said. She added that "God put some good people in my path," who supported her along the way. She said it was tough adjusting to the new challenges.

"I knew not having a spouse to fall back on would make things difficult, but I also knew I had to stick it out for my kids," McGee said. "Everything I've done up to this point was because of them."

McGee said that single parents often feel "more pressure to achieve."

She said she worked hard to achieve because of her family, and to counter the perceptions people have of single parents.

"I don't want to sugar coat everything," McGee said. "It's hard and I wouldn't recommend it to anyone. But if you stay focused, set goals and remember why you're here, you can make it."

A former drill sergeant, who mentored to young soldiers, she added that it helps to have faith in God.

"If you ask the man upstairs to help you, he will," she said adding that her family is "spiritually based."

"Keep your eye on the prize," McGee said. "Recognize and count your blessings. For those who don't, it's going to be kind of hectic."

Commentary: Single-parent soldiers truly 'Army of one'

Denver Beaulieu-Hains
Army News Service

Being a sole parent in the military is a lot of things: demanding, difficult, challenging; but the one thing it isn't — is impossible.

For three years as a single mother, I woke up at 4 a.m. to get ready for physical training, dressed and combed the hair of my three girls to make the 5:45 a.m. drop-off for the early morning before-school care.

My life depended on a long list of childcare providers, friends and family to ensure my family care plan was providing constant supervision for my children during frequent deployments and field exercises. I needed reliable care on a stand-by basis.

Most people won't admit their prejudices against mothers in the military, women in the workforce, and sole parents, in general. Some believe that single parenthood is a low-class, uneducated, never-been-married, desperate woman's problem and these women burden the system with gripes about childcare and special needs.

I offer that both my spouse and I were col-

lege-educated and were married for more than 10 years, and we both were committed to our military professions. All the positives weren't enough to keep the marriage together.

Army statistics for 2000 show there are about 36,000 soldiers who are sole parents. Of the women in the Army, 6.8 percent are single parents. About 3.1 percent of the men in the Army are single soldiers who have custodial responsibility for children, according to statistics from the Defense Manpower Data Center.

Nationally in 1998, the U.S. Census Bureau determined that male-headed single families were on the rise, while the number of women heading families remained constant at about 9.8 million women versus the 2.1 million men at the time.

Because of shrinking budgets and less personnel, we all do more with less and that makes old-fashioned ideas that alienate soldiers — enlist and commissioned —unpractical.

As a soldier, my biggest challenge was keeping the special challenges involving my children at home, and out of the workplace. I never wanted the perception to be that I was using my children to get out of 24-hour duty or weekend

assignments. Most of my friends were also sole parents and we made it by keeping tight circles. We sometimes even exchanged keys to our homes in case we got the dreaded late-night/early-morning alert call.

Putting all the stereotypes behind us, what all soldiers need most to be successful is unbiased support and guidance through the military's many programs and services, like those provided by Army Community Service, childcare co-ops, single-parent support groups and parenting classes. Units should encourage soldiers to use the services, as well as other federal and state programs, which may assist with child-care subsidies and lists for state-trained and certified home-care providers.

Every soldier and soldier's family has the potential to serve as a vital member of a support system that links sole parents and their children to an array of alternate fathers, mothers, cultures and experiences that not only serve as a support system, but also a source of enrichment.

Today, I'm an Army civilian. Nothing has changed. It was hard then and it's hard now. These days my employment hinges on a mobil-

ity agreement and five months of training, during which two of those months I completed a resident course at Fort Meade and couldn't bring my family.

My 12-hour days at the 25th Infantry Division in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, were just the beginning of what was to be the rest of my life.

When I accepted the job, the feedback I received was that I should settle into a career that requires less obligation, because I should be a mother first, and I am.

The most valuable lesson I've learned is that if I could be a sole parent and make it in the military, then I can do anything. Not only have I learned to think ahead and plan for the worst, I also feel that my children have benefited because of the other hard-working soldiers we were surrounded by on a daily basis. My girls have learned the value of independence and self-sufficiency.

No, it's not an easy road to travel, but it's certainly possible using the "one Army, one team and one mission" theory, with soldiers taking care of soldiers.



A vintage 1966 Volvo Swedish Military ambulance was the grand prize in a raffle for the 2001 East Coast Military Vehicle Rally. Proceeds went to the Ordnance Museum Building Fund.

Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Dave Brown, a military historian from Spring Grove, Pa., sits in his fully restored 1965 Ford M15A1 jeep at the 2001 East Coast Military Vehicle Rally.



Military vehicle rally to be held in Churchville

PAO

The 29th annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, featuring a military flea market and swap meet, will be held May 9 to 11 in Churchville, Md., in conjunction with Ordnance Week. It will be held dawn to dusk adjacent to the Big-M Drive-In Theater on Route 22, three miles from

Aberdeen and Aberdeen Proving Ground. Take exit 85 west (Route 22) from Interstate 95.

Spaces for camping are free and on a first-come first-served basis. Military drivers entered for judging receive free entry in the display area. Complimentary spaces will also be provided to individuals, groups or military vehicle association chapters

with military or historical displays or courtesy areas.

Last year's proceeds were donated to the Army Ordnance Museum, Army Emergency Relief fund and local Boy Scout troops.

Visit the rally Web site, abderdeenrally@aol.com, for a schedule of events and more information.



Photo by PEPA CHRISTOV
A healthy bald eagle takes to the air at Lauderick Creek, Edgewood Area, after five weeks of successful rehabilitation of an injured wing.

Eagle

From front page

Stewart said the bird was found in the water, traumatized but active with no visible injuries.

“It was docile but in obvious distress, favoring its right wing,” Stewart said. He added that part of his job is to ensure the protection of endangered

species on the proving ground.

“It’s important to let the community know there are severe fines and penalties for acts against bald eagles in accordance with the Bald Eagle Act,” Stewart said.

Houchin said that for he and his wife, the job is “just a fun hobby.”

As he watched the eagle disappear over the tree line, he said, “Just getting the chance to hold one of them makes it all worthwhile.”

Safety tips to ensure fun in the sun

Maj. Linda McKinney-Wilson
CHPPM

Last week’s soaring temperatures served as a reminder that summer is on the horizon. Spending too much time in the sun can cause health problems like sunburns, which can make summer very unpleasant.

Exposure to the sun’s ultraviolet rays appears to be the most important environmental factor in developing skin cancer. This makes skin cancer a largely preventable disease when sun protective practices and behaviors are consistently applied and utilized.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends taking extra care against the harmful UV radiation from the sun. UVA radiation is the most abundant source of solar radiation at the earth’s surface and penetrates beyond the top layer of human skin. Scientists believe exposure to UVA radiation can increase a person’s chances for developing skin cancer.

UVB, although not as abundant, penetrates the skin less deeply than UVA, but can be damaging to the skin as well.

Prolonged and unprotected exposure to the sun can result in premature aging, undesirable changes in skin texture and skin cancer.

The sun’s UV rays are strongest and do the most damage during midday, so it is best to avoid direct exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Fundamental protective measures

Keep the fun in your summer by following the fundamental steps to protect your skin from the sun.

- Wear a sunscreen and lip screen with at least Sun Protection Factor 15 UVA and UVB protection and use per manufacturer’s instructions.
- Sunscreens are not meant to allow you to spend more time in the sun than you would otherwise. Sunscreens reduce the damage from UV radiation.

• For the most effective protection, apply sunscreen generously 30 minutes before going outdoors. Don’t forget to protect ears, noses, lips, and the tops of feet, which often go unprotected when wearing sandal shoes or around water.

• Take sunscreen with you to reapply during the day, especially after swimming or exercising. This applies to “water-proof” and “water resistant” products as well.

• A wide-brimmed hat is more effective than a baseball cap because it shields the face, ears, and back of neck from the sun.

• Wraparound sunglasses block both UVA and UVB rays from entering the eyes.

• Long-sleeved shirts and pants made from tightly woven fabric offer protection against the sun.

• Take your breaks and your lunch in the shade, under an umbrella, tree or other form of shelter, to get out of the sun.

